

**Introduced by Senator Alarcon**

February 24, 2006

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An act to amend Section 18015 of the Public Resources Code, relating to solid waste.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

SB 1778, as introduced, Alarcon. Solid waste: beverage containers.

(1) Existing law require rigid plastic bottles and rigid plastic containers be labeled with a code indicating its polymeric composition. Existing law makes it a crime to manufacture for use a rigid plastic container or bottles that is not labeled in accordance with existing law.

This bill would add a designation of "8" or "PLA" to indicate that the plastic bottle or container is made of polylactic acid. By adding a new category of plastic composition to be labeled, this bill would create a new crime, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

(2) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 18015 of the Public Resources Code is  
2     amended to read:

1 18015. (a) All rigid plastic bottles and rigid plastic containers  
2 sold in California on and after January 1, 1992, shall be labeled  
3 with a code which indicates the resin used to produce the rigid  
4 plastic bottle or rigid plastic container. Rigid plastic bottles or  
5 rigid plastic containers with labels and basecups of a different  
6 material shall be coded by their basic material. The code shall  
7 consist of a number placed inside a triangle, and letters placed  
8 below the triangle. The triangle shall be equilateral, formed by  
9 three arrows with the apex of each point of the triangle at the  
10 midpoint of each arrow, rounded with a short radius. The pointer  
11 (arrowhead) of each arrow shall be at the midpoint of each side  
12 of the triangle with a short gap separating the pointer from the  
13 base of the adjacent arrow. The triangle, formed by the three  
14 arrows curved at their midpoints shall depict a clockwise path  
15 around the code number. The numbers and letters used shall be  
16 as follows:

- 17 1 = PETE (polyethylene terephthalate)
- 18 2 = HDPE (high density polyethylene)
- 19 3 = V (vinyl)
- 20 4 = LDPE (low density polyethylene)
- 21 5 = PP (polypropylene)
- 22 6 = PS (polystyrene)
- 23 7 = OTHER (includes multilayer)
- 24 8 = *PLA (polylactic acid)*

25 (b) A “7” shall appear below the resin abbreviation when the  
26 bottle or container is composed of more than one layer of that  
27 resin.

28 (c) On and after January 1, 1989, the Division of Recycling of  
29 the Department of Conservation shall maintain a list of  
30 abbreviations used on labels pursuant to subdivision (a) and shall  
31 provide a copy of that list to any person upon request.

32 SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to  
33 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because  
34 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school  
35 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or  
36 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the  
37 penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section  
38 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a

- 1 crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the
- 2 California Constitution.

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